

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/633,724

Examiner

Jordan M. Schwartz

Applicant(s)

NISHINA, KIICHIRO

Art Unit

2873

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to after final amendment received 11/19/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-6,9,10,12,17-28 and 30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 11/19/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's ~~Amendment~~ / Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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Allowed Claims: 1, 4-6, 9-10, 12, 17-28, 30.

Reasons for Allowance/Examiner's Comments

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art either alone or in combination disclose or teach of the claimed combination of limitations to warrant a rejection under 35 USC 102 or 103. Specifically, with reference to independent claim 1, none of the prior art either alone or in combination, disclose or teach of the claimed lens for reading specifically including, as the distinguishing feature in combination with the other limitations, the claimed fifth lens as a negative meniscus lens having a convex surface facing the object side. Specifically, with reference to independent claim 19, none of the prior art either alone or in combination, disclose or teach of the claimed lens for reading specifically including, as the distinguishing features in combination with the other limitations, the claimed illuminating the original in a slit like shape, imaging by reducing a reflected light from a portion illuminated on a line sensor by the lens for reading, and reading an original by illuminating and scanning a surface. Specifically, with reference to independent claims 21 and 23-24, none of the prior art either alone or in combination, disclose or teach of the claimed lens for reading specifically including, as the distinguishing features in combination with the other limitations, the claimed image forming lens configured to reduce and image a light reflected on the original and a line sensor to conduct a photoelectric transfer of an original image imaged by the image forming lens. Specifically, with reference to independent claim 30, none of the prior art either alone or in combination, disclose or

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teach of the claimed lens for reading specifically including, as the distinguishing feature in combination with the other limitations, the claimed first lens having an aspherical surface.

Examiner's Comments

In the Information Disclosure Statement received September 22, 2004, applicant listed "related applications" but has not complied with the requirements of MPEP 1.98 and therefore these listed applications have not been considered. Specifically, applicant is required to provide copies of any cited U.S. applications for consideration in compliance with 1.98(a)(2)(iii).

For applicant's further information, the Information Disclosure Statement received November 19, 2004 has been considered and the initialed IDS is attached hereto.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jordan M. Schwartz whose telephone number is (571) 272-2337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday (8:00-5:30), alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Y. Epps can be reached at (571) 272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jordan M. Schwartz
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2873
November 30, 2004